

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a cell change in a mobile communications network, in which data is transmitted from a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) to a mobile station in packets, and in which data packets are stored in a respective radio access node before transmission to the mobile station, the method comprising:

detecting a cell change of a mobile station, from a first cell served by a first cell radio access node to a second cell served by a second cell radio access node;

sending a first message from the SGSN to the first cell radio access node in response to detecting a cell change of the mobile station ~~to said first message~~,

sending a reply message from the first cell radio access node to the SGSN, wherein the reply message comprises at least a copy of one of the data packets awaiting transmission to the mobile station and unable to be transferred to the second cell radio access node ~~to be deleted in the first cell radio access node~~;

discarding the at least one of the data packets in the first cell radio access node; and

in response to said reply message, transmitting said copy of at least one of the data packets from the SGSN to the second cell radio access node.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reply message includes a tag identifying a response to the first message.

3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first message is a FLUSH-LL command.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the data packets comprise data packets transmitted in LLC unacknowledged mode.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second cell is in a different Routing Area or different Network Service Entity from the first cell.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein data is transmitted from the SGSN to a radio access node in acknowledged mode or in unacknowledged mode, wherein data transmitted in unacknowledged mode are retained in the SGSN for a predetermined time period, and wherein said reply message allows the data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node to be identified in the SGSN.

7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said reply message indicates the number of data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said reply message specifically identifies the data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reply message indicates indices of the data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node.

10. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the network is a GPRS network, and the acknowledged mode and unacknowledged mode are LLC-acknowledged mode and LLC-unacknowledged mode respectively.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first message is a FLUSH-LL command.

12. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reply message includes copies of the data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first message is a FLUSH-LL command.

15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network is a GPRS network, the first cell radio access node is a first BSS, and the second cell radio access node is a second BSS.

16. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network is a GPRS network, the first cell radio access node is a first BSS, and the second cell radio access node is the first BSS.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: the network is a GPRS network, the SGSN comprises a first SGSN; the first cell is in a first NSE served by the first SGSN; and the second cell is in a second NSE served by a second SGSN; and wherein the step of transmitting said data packets from the SGSN to the second cell radio access node comprises transmitting said data packets from the first SGSN to the second SGSN and then to the second cell radio access node.

18. (Currently Amended) A radio access node, for use in a mobile communications network, the radio access node comprising means for storing data packets before transmission to a mobile station, the radio access node further comprising:

means for acting on a first message received from a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) indicating a cell change from a first cell served by the radio access node to a second cell served by a second cell radio access node

of a mobile station, by:

sending a reply message in response to the first message to the SGSN to ~~enable said SGSN to transmit data packets to be deleted in the radio access~~

node to a second radio access node in response to said reply message having at least a copy of one of the data packets awaiting transmission to the mobile station and unable to be transferred to the second cell radio access node; and discarding the data packets in the radio access node.

19. (Original) A radio access node as claimed in claim 18, wherein said reply message indicates the number of data packets discarded in said radio access node.

20. (Original) A radio access node as claimed in claim 18, wherein said reply message specifically identifies the data packets discarded in said radio access node.

21. (Original) A radio access node as claimed in claim 18, wherein said reply message includes copies of the data packets discarded in the radio access node.

22. (Original) A radio access node as claimed in claim 18, wherein the network is a GPRS network, and the radio access node comprises a BSS.

23. (Previously Presented) A radio access node as claimed in claim 18, wherein the reply message indicates indices of the data packets discarded in the radio access node.

24. (Original) A radio access node as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first message is a FLUSH-LL command.

25. (Currently Amended) A serving GPRS support node (SGSN) for use in a mobile communications network, in which data is transmitted from the SGSN to a mobile station in packets, and in which data packets are stored in a respective radio access node before transmission to the mobile station, the SGSN comprising:

means for detecting a cell change of a mobile station, from a first cell served by a first cell radio access node to a second cell served by a second cell radio access node;

means for sending a first message from the SGSN to the first cell radio access node in response to a cell change detection, said first message causing the first cell radio access node to send a copy of data packets awaiting transmission to the mobile station and unable to be transferred to the second cell radio access node and deleting the data packets awaiting transmission to the mobile station ~~stored data packets intended for transmission to the mobile station to be deleted in the first cell radio access node;~~

means for receiving a reply to said first message, wherein the reply comprises a copy of the data packets ~~to be deleted~~ and, in response to said reply, transmitting said copy of data packets from the SGSN to the second cell radio access node.

26. (Previously Presented) The SGSN as claimed in claim 25, wherein the reply includes copies of the data packets to be deleted.

27. (Previously Presented) The SGSN as claimed in claim 26, wherein, when the second cell is served by a second different SGSN, said node is adapted to transmit said discarded data packets to the second cell radio access node through the second SGSN.

28. (Previously Presented) The SGSN as claimed in claim 25, wherein data is transmitted from the SGSN to a radio access node in acknowledged mode or in unacknowledged mode, wherein data transmitted in unacknowledged mode are retained in the SGSN for a predetermined time period, and wherein said reply message allows the data packets discarded in the first cell radio access node to be identified in the SGSN.

29. (Previously Presented) The SGSN as claimed in claim 28, wherein the network is a GPRS network, and the acknowledged mode and unacknowledged mode are LLC acknowledged mode and LLC un-acknowledged mode respectively.

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